



*Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Health Care Quality and Cost Council
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Health Care Quality and Cost Council

Minutes

May 23, 2007

1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Plaza Room 11, One Ashburton Place
Boston, MA 02108

Attendance: Dr. Tom Lee, Greg Sullivan, Joe Lawler, Beth Capstick, Bob Seifert, Charlie Baker, Kevin Beagan, David Friedman, Ken LaBresh, Dolores Mitchell, Katharine London (ED)

I. Bob Seifert called the meeting to order at 1:09

II. Minutes from 4.25.07 were approved unanimously

III. Report from the Executive Director

- Budget: Katharine London reported on the budget for the Council as proposed by the House and the Senate, \$800,000 and \$1million respectively.
- Employees: She reported that she is hoping to have an intern in the office in the near future.
- Website: She gave an update on the discussions Beth Capstick and Chris DeLorey have had with ITD. A basic first site will be housed within mass.gov as soon as she has the material needed to proceed and the data assembled. The website will be built with ITD or an outside contractor.
- Katharine confirmed that Elliott Fisher will be available for the June 6 meeting with the Advisory Committee.
- Annual Meeting: A discussion took place regarding the Annual Meeting and considerations for a longer meeting as well as timeframe on the report. Tom Lee, Beth Capstick, and Kevin Beagan volunteered to work on the Annual Meeting Committee.
- General Update: Katharine London shared her updated contact information

IV. MassHealth Pay for Performance Initiative

Tom Dehner, Acting Medicaid Director, presented MassHealth proposals for Pay for Performance Initiatives in acute hospitals as required under provisions of Chapter 58 with a goal of rewarding hospitals for improving quality of care. The initiatives presented would need a baseline to be measured in advance of new requirements for the hospitals. MassHealth intends to begin measuring the baseline in the next Hospital Year.

Tom Dehner presented the information MassHealth has considered to date including requiring hospitals to participate in different measurement reporting initiatives including Leapfrog, Never Events, and IHI reporting. The Council posed a variety of questions to Mr.

Dehner and decided it would be best to have him address the group at a meeting of one of the Subcommittees

V. Mission & Vision Statement

Katharine London presented the Mission & Vision Statement she had developed for the Council. There was discussion to amend various parts of both statements including adding information on reporting to the Legislature with an annual report, specific date of achievement of the vision statement as June 30, 2012, and inclusion of the regulatory power held by the Council. No vote was taken at this time, but it was decided that the Council would vote prior to the June 6, 2007 Advisory Committee meeting however in the meantime, Katharine would be able to post the current version on the website before that vote with the understanding that the wording could be amended.

VI. Review of Quality and Cost Goals

Katharine London presented a synthesis of work that has gone on within Subcommittees and in Council. Ken LaBresh discussed the importance of understanding what evidence was available for each initiative and the implications that would have for deciding on specific goals. The Council also discussed the following for inclusion:

- i) Specific target dates for achieving different milestones for each goal and the importance of developing a baseline for goals in which there was no data currently available to measure against;
- ii) Collecting health disparities information
- iii) Short term and long term cost savings

VII. Draft Regulations

Katharine London presented the regulations in the current form and suggested a committee should form to make specific recommendations and report back with a specific proposal.

VIII. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 3pm to meet next on June 19, 2007.